

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/643,839

Examiner

Nguyen T. Ha

Applicant(s)

ROSENAU, KEITH W.

Art Unit

2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

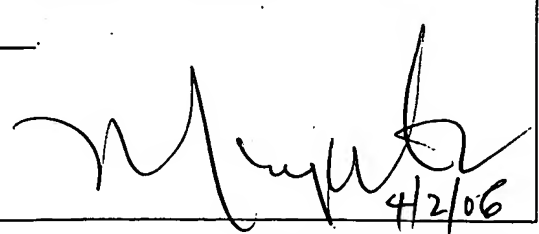
1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/20/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 7-20 and 23-37.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                                                     |                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                                    | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____  |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment •                  |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance • |
|                                                                                                                     | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                                                |

  
4/2/06

**DETAILED ACTION**  
**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 4-6 and 21-22 are canceled, based on the non-elected claims on 1/3/2005.

***Response to Arguments***

2. The applicant has argued that Thoma is silent with respect to a capacitive sensor comprising a non-conductive web intermediate a first polymeric conductor and the second polymeric conductor to maintain a substantially fixed separation distance between the first and the second polymeric conductor, wherein the web, the first polymeric conductor and the second polymeric conductor embedded within a non-conductive polymer. The examiner finds this argument persuasive, therefore, the examiner made decision to allow this limitation over the prior art of record.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-3, 7-20, and 23-37 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claims 1-3, and 7-14, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of a capacitive sensor comprising a non-conductive web intermediate a first polymeric conductor and the second polymeric conductor to maintain a substantially fixed separation distance between the first and the second polymeric conductor, wherein the web, the first polymeric conductor and the second polymeric conductor embedded within a non-conductive polymer.

With respect to claims 15-20, and 23-28 the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of an elongate capacitive sensor for installation about an opening in a motor vehicle, the opening having at least one corner, the sensor comprising: a one-piece extruded non conducting body; and the body configured to substantially maintain a nominal separation distance between the first polymeric conductor and the second polymeric conductor after installation about the corner.

With respect to claims 29-30, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of a capacitive sensor comprising a polymeric conductor embedded within a non conductive polymeric body, a cross sectional periphery of the polymeric conductor substantially defined by the body.

With respect to claims 31-33, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of a method manufacturing a capacitive sensor for installation about a motor vehicle opening having at least one corner, the method comprising steps of forming a web configured to substantially maintain the separation distance upon installation about the corner.

With respect to claims 34-37, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of a capacitive sensor comprising: a web and first and second polymeric conductor defining a radius of curvature and the web maintaining a substantially fixed separation distance between the first and the second polymeric conductor along the radius of curvature.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

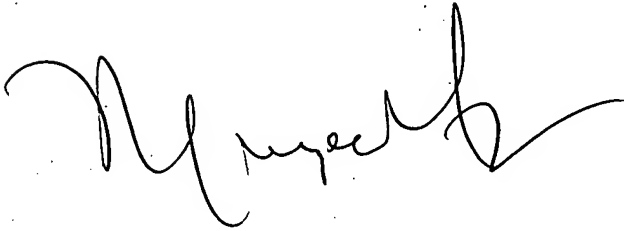
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nguyen T. Ha whose telephone number is 571-272-1974. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nguyen T. Ha', with a stylized, cursive script.

**Nguyen T. Ha**  
**April 1, 2006**